

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 10 were pending in the application at the time of the examination action. Claims 1 to 10 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 1 to 6 have been amended to further clarify that the process is performed via a resource server peer group itself as illustrated, for example, in Fig. 43A, without resort to any other server and therefore in response to the request as received. Applicants respectfully note that in an obviousness rejection, any inherent feature for the invention recited in the Claims is supposed to be considered in the "as a whole" analysis. Accordingly, these amendments only make explicit that which was implicit when the claim was considered as a whole.

Claims 8 and 10 are amended to correct informalities created by the amendments to the claims from which they depend.

Claims 1 to 10 stand rejected 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,092,196 to Reiche (hereinafter, Reiche) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,970,904 to Rode (hereinafter, Rode).

Applicants respectfully traverse the obviousness rejection of Claims 1, 3 and 5. The rejection has yet to clearly identify "a resource server peer group" that receives a request for a resource that is stored on the resource server peer group where at the time of receipt of that request, the request includes a rights key credential that in turn includes at least one key and a resource identifier. As noted in the rationale for continuing the rejection, the rejection relies upon features that are performed on an authentication server.

Figure 1 of Reiche distinguishes between "Authentication Server 110" and "Customer Servers 120 and 150." It is customer servers 120 and 150 where "Each customer server, such as 120, includes a memory table 122, a AD 124 and a customer HTTP server 126." Reiche, Col. 8, lines 24 to 26. It is the

customer server that ultimately processes the URL sent by the user.

However, the process performed by the customer server is fundamentally different from that recited in these claims. Figs. 2A to 2E of Reiche show a complex process that is performed that relies upon authentication server 110. The reasons, as taught by Reiche, are:

One of the difficulties that users and managers of these networks face is that the users have to provide a user ID and password every time they wish to access one of the organization's secured HTTP servers or URLs. This creates a problem for users and managers since lists of numerous user IDs and passwords need to be maintained and therefore can easily be lost or their confidentiality compromised. This invention addresses these problems by providing a transparent, scalable, single point of authentication for remote users across any number of HTTP servers anywhere on a data network, such as an Intranet, using any user ID and password scheme implemented by a main authentication HTTP server. (Emphasis Added).

Reiche, Abstract.

Reiche, through use of the administrative server, teaches away from a resource server peer group that processes a request without resort to an authentication server, and makes the determination on whether to provide a resource using information in the request as recited in these claims without accessing any other server.

Applicants note that a secondary reference was cited, but the information in that reference fails to correct the basic deficiencies of the primary reference. Therefore, even if the combination is correct, the combination fails to suggest Applicants' invention as recited in these claims. Further, to maintain the issue, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination is not well founded. The client ID of Reiche does not contain any personal information about the user and so Reiche provided the very feature cited as the motivation for modifying Reiche. Again, when Reiche is considered as a whole Reiche teaches that the motivation for the combination of

references is not well founded. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of Claims 1, 3, and 5.

Applicants respectfully traverse the obviousness rejection of each of Claims 2, 4, and 6. With respect to Claims 2, 4, and 6, the above comments are applicable and are incorporated herein by reference. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of each of Claims 2, 4, and 6.

With respect to Claims 7 to 10, these claims distinguish over the combination of references for at least the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of each of Claims 7 to 10.

Claims 1 to 10 remain in the application. Claims 1 to 6, 8 and 10 have been amended. For the foregoing reasons, Applicant(s) respectfully request allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions relating to the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicant(s).

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 27, 2007



April 27, 2007

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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April 27, 2007

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

RE: Applicant(s): Eduard K. de Jong et al.

Assignee: Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Title: USER ACCESS CONTROL TO DISTRIBUTED RESOURCES  
ON A DATA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Serial No.: 10/014,893 Filed: October 29, 2001

Examiner: Kevin T. Bates Group Art 2155  
Unit:

Docket No.: P-6992

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Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents for the response to the Office Action dated January 29, 2007 in the above application:

1. Return receipt postcard;
2. This Transmittal Letter (2 pages); and
3. Amendment (11 pages).

No additional claims fees are required.  
 The additional claim fees have been calculated as shown below:

Transmittal Letter  
 Serial No. 10/014,893  
 April 27, 2007

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	Claims Remaining after Amendment	Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	10	- 20	= 0	x \$50.00	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	6	- 6	= 0	x \$200.00	\$ 0.00
First filing of Multiple Dependent Claim (Enter \$290)					0.00
				Total of above Calculation	\$ 0.00
Reduction by 50% for filing by Small Entity (Enter 0.5 for small entity)					1.0
				Subtotal	\$ 0.00
Submission of Information Disclosure Statement Fee (enter \$180)					0.00
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>

Conditional Petition for Extension of Time: If an extension of time is required for timely filing of the enclosed documents after all papers filed with this transmittal have been considered, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such an extension of time.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required for consideration of the enclosed documents, and to credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0553.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 27, 2007.

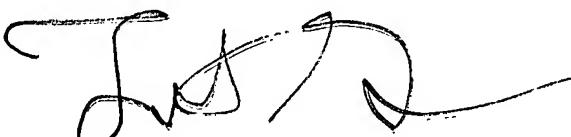


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